

declares them : he is extremely calm both in
 council and
 actions, and hears very gently things that are
 said to him,
 even when he is not pleased with them ; but he
 has the
 haughtiness of a great mind not to forget too
 soon injuries
 done him, but he has never been observed to
 affect revenges,
 only he does not easily return to confidences
 with those
 that have offended him. His courage is indeed
 greater than
 it ought to be, and though it was very fit for
 one that had
 the ambition of arriving at the reputation of
 his ancestors
 to hazard his person sometimes, that so it
 might appear that
 he was a soldier as well as a general, yet his
 great carelessness
 of all personal danger both in time of
 peace and war
 has been censured as excessive. . . . He has a
 true notion
 of government and liberty, and does not think
 that subjects
 were made to be slaves ; but after the laws and
 foundations
 of government are overturned by those who
 ought to maintain them, he thinks the people may assert
 their freedom.
 He is a close manager of his affairs, and
 though he spends
 much in building, yet he is not thought so free-
 hearted and
 generous as a great prince ought to be. His
 martial inclina-
 tions will naturally carry him, when he comes
 to the crown
 of England, to bear down the greatness of
 France ; and if
 he but hits the nature of the English nation
 right at first he
 will be able to give laws to all Europe. . . . But
 if the Prince
 does not in many things change his way, he will
 hardly gain
 the hearts of the nation ; his coldness will look
 like contempt, and that the English cannot bear ; and
 they are too

impatient to digest that slowness that is
almost become
natural to him in the most inconsiderable
things ; and his
silent way will pass for superciliousness.¹

This prophecy may be contrasted with
Burners estimate
of William after he was dead :

His designs were always great and good :
but it was
thought he trusted too much to that, and that
he did not
descend enough to the humours of his people,
to make him-

¹ Supplement, pp. 190-3.